

Ark. police photograph license plates, store data

March 2 2013, by Jeannie Nuss

(AP)—Little Rock may not be a likely terrorism target or a gang crime hotspot, but the Arkansas capital is following the example of high-security cities by expanding electronic surveillance of its streets.

A police car with a device that photographs [license plates](#) moves through the city and scans the traffic on the streets, relaying the data it collects to a computer for sifting. Police say the surveillance helps identify stolen cars and drivers with outstanding arrest warrants.

It also allows authorities to monitor where average citizens might be at any particular time. That bothers some residents, as well as groups that oppose public intrusions into individual privacy. The groups are becoming more alarmed about license plate tracking as a growing number of [police departments](#) acquire the technology.

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Citation: Ark. police photograph license plates, store data (2013, March 2) retrieved 23 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2013-03-ark-police-plates.html>

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